

ARIZONA RACING COMMISSION**529TH REGULAR MEETING****WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2004****MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING**

A public meeting of the Arizona Racing Commission was convened on Wednesday, January 14, 2004, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Building Conference Room 250, 1110 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona.

A. Call to Order:

Present: Chairman Burton Kruglick
Vice-Chairman Bob Ford
Commissioner Michael Napier
Commissioner Michael Vespoli

Also Present: Geoffrey E. Gonsher, Director
Mary DeLaat Williams, Assistant Attorney General

Chairman Kruglick called the 529th Regular Meeting of the Arizona Racing Commission to order at 10:01 a.m. The following matters were discussed, considered, and decided at the meeting:

A. Call to Order**1. Ratification of action taken on December 3, 2003.**

- Approval of the Minutes of the 527th Regular Meeting held Wednesday, November 12, 2003, and resumed on Monday, November 17, 2003.

Chairman Kruglick called for a motion. Vice-Chairman Ford moved for approval. Commissioner Napier seconded the motion. **All in favor.** (Commissioner Vespoli not present for the vote.)

2. Approval of the Minutes.

- 528th Regular Meeting held Wednesday, December 3, 2003.
- Special Public Meeting held Monday, December 8, 2003.

Chairman Kruglick called for a motion. Vice-Chairman Ford moved for approval. Commissioner Napier seconded the motion. **All in favor.** (Commissioner Vespoli not present for the vote.)

Chairman Kruglick asked for introduction of guests. Vice-Chairman Ford introduced his father, Robert Ford.

B. Department Information Reports

Commission members were provided with informational reports on all items listed below.

Chairman Kruglick asked Commission members if there was any comment or discussion on any of the Information Reports. None of the items were addressed and were accepted as presented.

1. Renewal of Permit to Conduct a Horse Racing Meeting – Yavapai County Fair Association
2. Department of Racing Accomplishments in 2003
3. Department of Racing Information Brochure
4. University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program Students
5. Racing Industry News Articles
6. E-Government Business Process Survey
7. Charity Races Conducted at Permittee Locations
8. Off-Track Betting Locations in Arizona
9. National Thoroughbred Racing Association 2003 Recap Report
10. Department of Racing Correspondence

C. New Business

The following New Business items are for a status report, presentation, discussion, and possible action for the Commission.

Chairman Kruglick noted that items on the agenda would be addressed out of order.

ARIZONA RACING COMMISSION

529TH REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2004

10. **Scheduling Racing Commission Meetings in Tucson and Prescott Valley in 2004 - Chairman Kruglick** asked for suggestions of possible meeting dates. After discussion among Commission members it was decided that the meeting at Yavapai Downs would be held Tuesday, July 13, 2004. The meeting at Tucson Greyhound Park would be held on Wednesday, April 14, 2004.
11. **County Fair Racing in Arizona - Director Gonsler** updated the Commission on issues that are affecting county fair racing in Arizona and gave a brief overview of funding and additional distributions. **Casey Faunce**, President, Arizona Counties Racing Association, shared his concerns relating to county fair racing and said he was not in favor of the proposal to take a percentage from counties that race their days at commercial facilities and divide it among counties that race at their own facilities. The counties would like legislation introduced that would raise the funding cap on funds from unclaimed property. Director Gonsler and Commission members added their support to this proposal.
12. **Report on Legislation of Interest to the Racing Industry - Director Gonsler** reported that the Department is looking for sponsors for county fair funding legislation and will invite Commissioners to appear before Committees as legislation is scheduled. Director Gonsler gave an update on HB 2053, the Racing Compact bill, and informed the Commission that the Department would be making a budget presentation to a joint committee on Friday, January 16. Commission members were invited to attend.
13. **Horse Racing Industry Recognition Awards - Director Gonsler** reported that Commissioner Napier and Linda Bergevin, Special Investigations Manager, have been working on this project for several months. Director Gonsler gave a brief overview of the program and said he hoped to finalize the program and get it out to the industry in the near future. **Commissioner Napier** said he felt this was a worthwhile program and hoped it would be in place by the next Commission meeting. **Chairman Kruglick** asked that Commission members be allowed to review the plan. **Commissioner Napier** asked the Department to provide the plan to Commission members.
14. **Permittee Operations Reports**
 - **Apache Greyhound Park - Ed Braunger**, General Manager, reported that April 4 is the last day of live racing at Apache Greyhound Park.
 - **County Fairs - Roy Snedigar**, County Fair Coordinator, reported that Pima County Fair at Rillito Park will begin Saturday, January 17. There is a five-week break between county fair racing at Rillito and the next county fair race meeting at Duncan.
 - **Phoenix Greyhound Park** - no report
 - **Rillito Park** - no report
 - **Tucson Greyhound Park - Tom Taylor**, General Manager, reported that they have been looking at new OTBs and have changed their tote company to AmTote as of March 14.
 - **Turf Paradise - Randy Fozzard**, General Manager, reported that Turf is having a good meet. **Vice-Chairman Ford** recognized Turf's contribution of 100 bicycles to the United Phoenix Firefighters Adopt a Family for Christmas Program. **Chairman Kruglick** asked Director Gonsler to prepare a Resolution in support of Turf's charitable contributions.
 - **Yavapai Downs - Jim Grundy**, General Manager, reported that they are pursuing development of an RV park on their property that will help provide accommodation for the horsemen this summer during the racing meet.
 - **Yuma Greyhound Park** - no report
1. **Amendment to TP Racing, L.L.L.P. Permit (Racing Dates) - Director Gonsler** reported that Turf Paradise has requested a change in their permit that requires Commission action. (Changing January 25, 2004 from a dark day to a live racing day. Changing February 1, 2004 from a live racing day to a dark day.) **Chairman Kruglick** called for a motion. **Vice-Chairman Ford** moved for approval. **Commissioner Vespoli** seconded the motion. All in favor.

ARIZONA RACING COMMISSION**529TH REGULAR MEETING****WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2004**

2. **Amendment to TP Racing, L.L.L.P. Permit (Requirements) - Director Gonsher** noted that portions of Turf's permit have been identified as archaic and no longer necessary. Turf has asked that these sections be deleted from the current permits and from all future permits. **Chairman Kruglick** called for a motion. **Vice-Chairman Ford** moved for approval. **Commissioner Vespoli** seconded the motion. **All in favor.**
3. **Amendment to Tucson Greyhound Park, Inc. Permit (Racing Dates) - Director Gonsher** reported that Tucson Greyhound Park has asked to change Thursday, November 25, 2004, from a non-wagering day to a dark day. **Chairman Kruglick** called for a motion. **Vice-Chairman Ford** moved for approval. **Commissioner Vespoli** seconded the motion. **All in favor.**
4. **Amendment to Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission Permit (Requirements)** **Director Gonsher** reported that the changes requested require Commission approval. **Chairman Kruglick** called for a motion. **Vice-Chairman Ford** moved for approval. **Commissioner Vespoli** seconded the motion. **All in favor.**
5. **Withdrawn - Phoenix Greyhound Park Request for Additional Wagering Facility**
(Boston's Bar & Grille, 1730 East Elliott Road, Tempe, Arizona)
6. **Erythropoietin (EPO) Issue- Director Gonsher** gave a follow-up report from last month's Commission meeting on this issue. **Dr. Leslie Salmons**, Chief Veterinarian, made a brief presentation regarding testing results. He reported that the results were negative, and recommended that random testing for EPO be done throughout the year. **Commissioner Napier** agreed that we needed to be proactive and continue testing. **Director Gonsher** noted that the Department would be notifying the industry that random testing would be conducted.
7. **Proposal to Increase Claiming Price for Arizona-Bred Horses - Director Gonsher** reported that this was a proposal submitted by the Arizona Thoroughbred Breeders Association in lieu of the three-pound rule proposal that has not received a consensus within the industry. **Yvonne Kunz**, ATBA Executive Director, reported that this will be an in-house rule that will be tried at Turf Paradise. The proposal will allow Arizona-breds to run for a higher claiming price in open claiming races. The ATBA thinks this will help the industry. **Commissioner Napier** thanked all who are working to find ways to help the industry.
8. **New Greyhound Grading System - Dan Luciano**, Phoenix Greyhound Park General Manager, reported that the grading system was changed at the beginning of the year. The new system allows younger greyhounds to run against each other before they move up into the grading system. It seems to be working well and will keep greyhounds more productive during their careers and allow them more time to prepare for the higher grades.
9. **Recognition of Roy Snedigar, County Fair Coordinator - Director Gonsher** informed those in attendance that the Commission would be recognizing Roy Snedigar. He shared information regarding Roy's career. The comments are attached to these Minutes and incorporated by this reference. After reading the comments into the record, Director Gonsher thanked Roy for everything he has done for the Department and the industry in Arizona. **Chairman Kruglick** noted that it would be hard to express what Roy has contributed to racing in Arizona and around the country. He presented Mr. Snedigar with a plaque from the Commission in honor of Roy's devoted service to the Arizona Racing Commission, the Department of Racing, and the pari-mutuel racing industry. All in attendance joined in applause to honor of Roy and his accomplishments. **Mr. Snedigar** thanked the Commission and stated that he has enjoyed every minute of his career in racing, especially the many acquaintances and cherished friends he has made.

C. Commission Reports**1. Summary of Current Events Affecting the Arizona Racing Commission.**

Director Gonsher reported that the Department would provide a report from the ad hoc Horse Racing Task Force at the next Commission meeting.

2. Identification of Matters to be Placed on Future Agendas.

Commissioner Napier requested the following:

- Progress report on the racehorse retirement rehabilitation program.

ARIZONA RACING COMMISSION**529TH REGULAR MEETING****WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2004**

Chairman Kruglick read a letter from Senator Kyl regarding the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act.

Executive Sessions. The Commission may vote to go into executive session on any of the foregoing agenda items for legal advice from its attorney pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

The Racing Commission did not adjourn to Executive Session.

E. Call to the Public

Those members of the public wishing to address the Commission must sign the sign-up sheet and be recognized by the Chair. Time permitting; each presentation will be given approximately five minutes. Action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or re-schedule the matter for further consideration at a later date.

Lloyd Yother, President of the Arizona Quarter Racing Association, encouraged all in attendance to attend the horseracing meeting at Rillito Park. He also notified the Commission that the second annual county fair legislative dinner would be held on Wednesday, February 4 at La Canasta. He invited Commission members to attend if it was permissible.

Announcements

The next regular Commission meeting will be held on February 11, 2004, at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment:

Chairman Kruglick called for a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Vespoli** moved to adjourn. **Commissioner Ford** seconded the motion. **All in favor.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Dated this 5th day of February 2004.

Arizona Racing Commission

By


Joyce Cozby, Commission Secretary

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF RACING

JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR



GEOFFREY E. GONSHER
DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

NEW BUSINESS ITEM 9

To: Arizona Racing Commission
From: Geoffrey E. Gonsher, Director *GG*
Date: January 8, 2004
Re: Recognition of Roy Snedigar, County Fair Coordinator

The purpose of this memo is to recognize the contributions Roy Snedigar, County Fair Coordinator, has made to the Department of Racing and the racing industry in Arizona.

For his entire life, Roy has been involved with horses. Roy was raised on a cattle ranch in the Gila Valley area near Safford, Arizona. As a young man, he won events and championships in team and calf roping. His father, Stan Snedigar, leased two racetracks in Arizona, the Fairgrounds and Sportsman's Park. Roy grew up galloping, grooming and training race horses. After serving in the U.S. Army Signal Corps in New Guinea and the Philippines, Roy raised cattle and farmed alfalfa and cotton while owning, breeding, raising, training and racing both Thoroughbreds and Quarter Horses. He trained the first foal crop of the revered sire Three Bars.

Roy has held almost every official position possible in racing. In the western states he is well respected as plater/horseshoer, outrider and steward. Roy has served as County Fair Coordinator/steward since 1989. In this position, he oversaw the operation and regulation of fifteen Arizona county fair racing meetings. He served as Executive Secretary of the Racing Commission from 1979 through 1982. When the Department of Racing was established in 1982, Roy was appointed Acting Director and then served as Deputy Director. He served as Deputy Director until 1987.

Roy will be reducing his time with the Department to help his son with a new business. He has agreed to be available to the Department to provide assistance and guidance when needed. I am very grateful for the advice he has given me in my tenure, for all of his support for horse breeding and racing, and for his friendship. Although he will not be available to work as often as before for us, I look forward to calling upon him periodically in the future.

Please join the Department in recognizing Roy's contributions to the industry.

1110 West Washington, Suite 260
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
PH 602-364-1700
FAX 602-364-1703